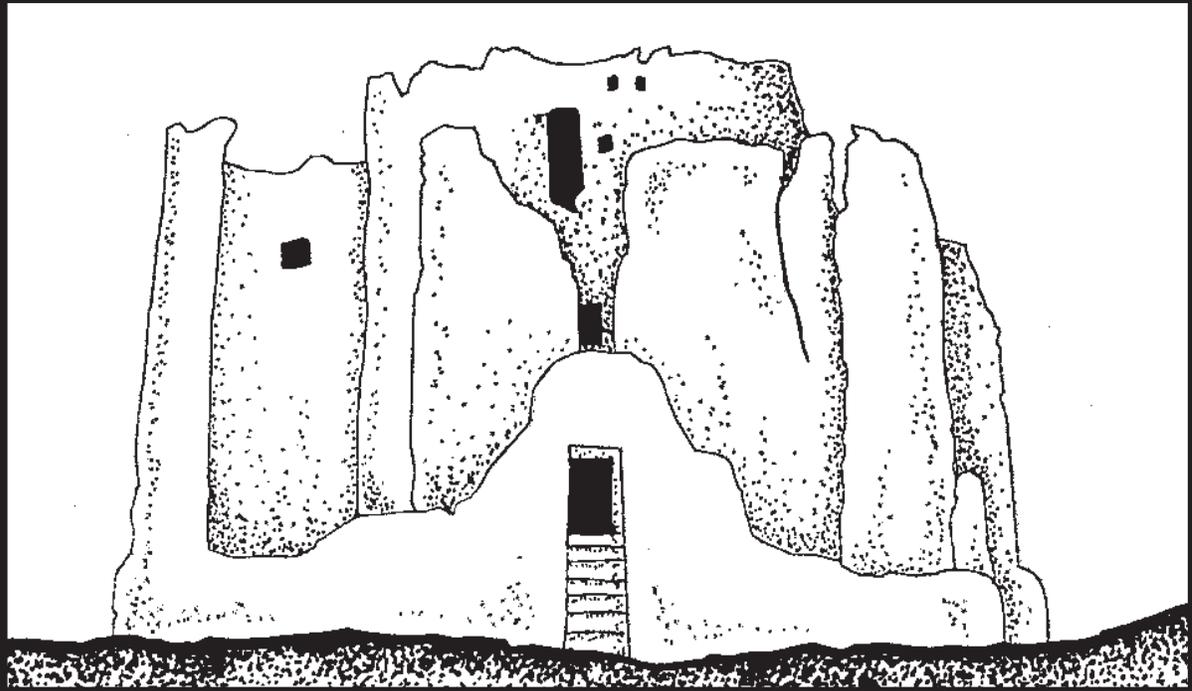


Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

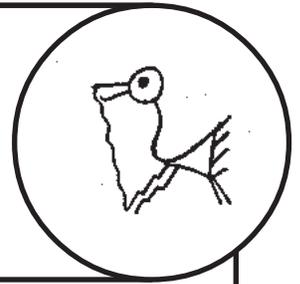


Student Exploration Booklet



Preserving the past for Future Generations

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CASA GRANDE RUINS



300BC to AD300 - Hohokam live in small camps with pithouses.
First pottery appears.

AD300-775 - Farming communities established. Some canals
are started.

775-975 - Period of expansion and artistic development.

975-1150 - First platform mounds are built. Large amount of
red ware pottery is produced and traded.

1150-1300 - Greatest extent of Hohokam civilization.
Decorated pottery declines.

1300-1450 - Many “Great Houses” and walled structures
are built. The Hohokam abandon large central
settlements sometime between 1355 and 1450.

1694 - Padre Eusebio Kino is the first European to
visit and names the Casa Grande.

1889 - Congress sets aside \$2000 as the first funds
dedicated to repair and protect the site.

1892 - President Benjamin Harrison designates Casa
Grande Ruin Reservation as country’s first
archaeological reserve.

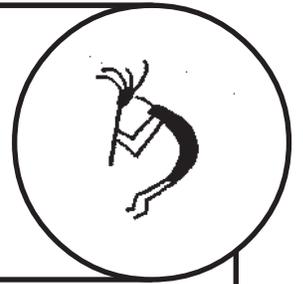
1903 - First roof constructed to protect the Great House.

1918 - President Woodrow Wilson proclaims the site
to be “Casa Grande Ruins National Monument”

1932 - Present roof constructed

Today - **You visited the Monument!**

RECORD YOUR VISIT



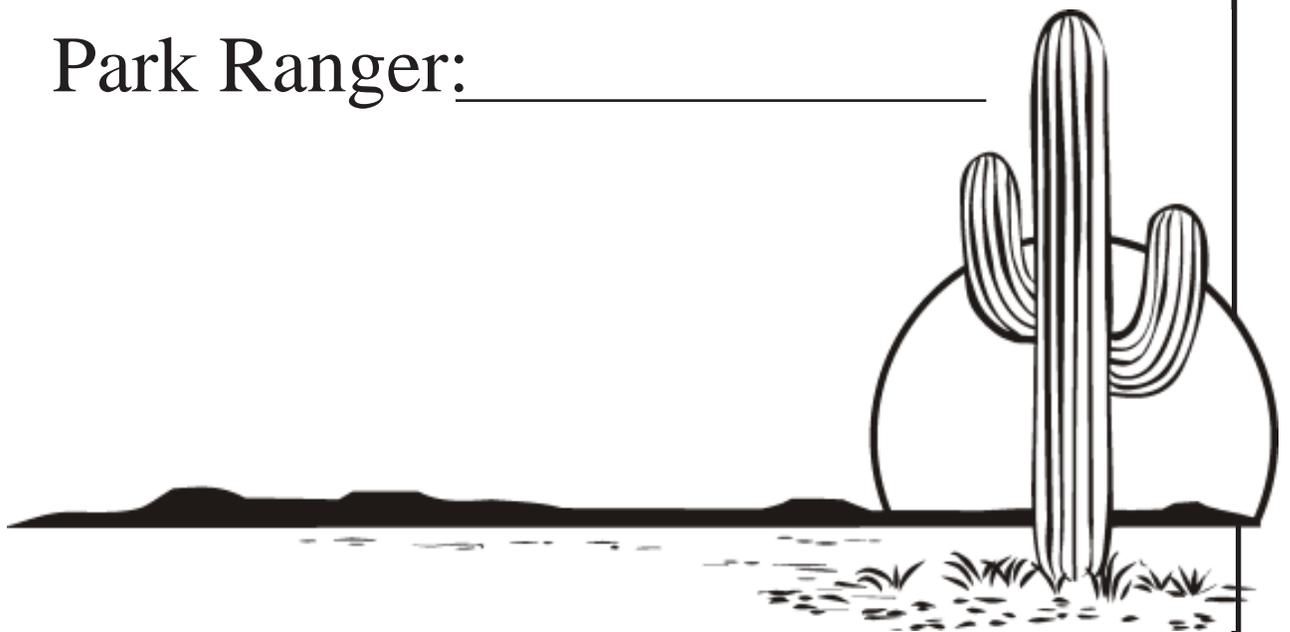
Date: _____

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

School: _____

Park Ranger: _____



HOUSE RULES



Casa Grande Ruins was protected in 1892. The people of the United States wanted to preserve it for future generations. Guess what? That's you!

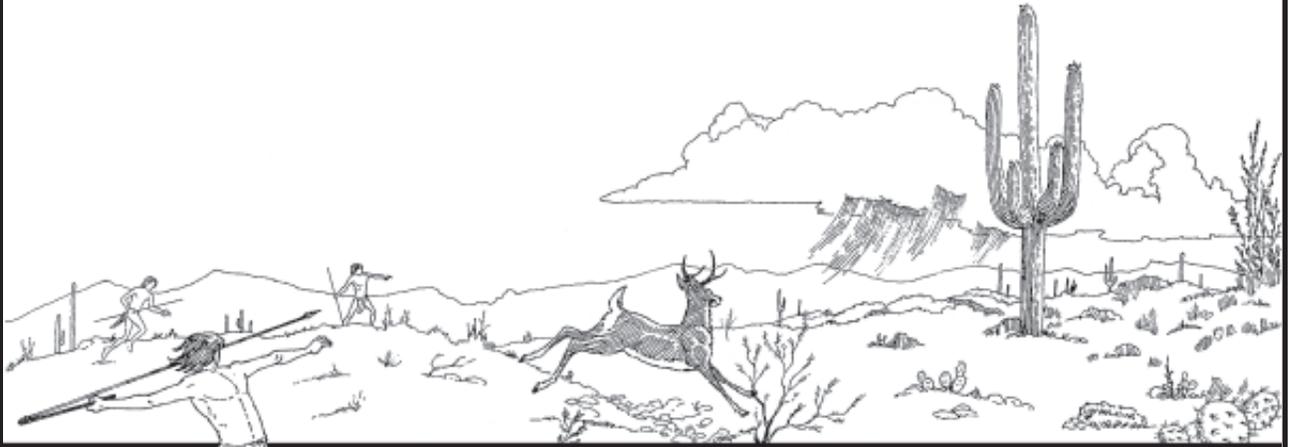
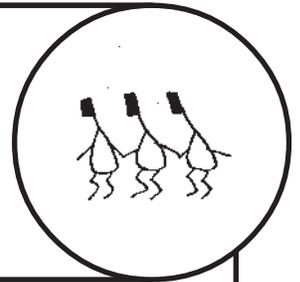
YOU CAN HELP PROTECT CASA GRANDE RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT

We want your time here to be a fun experience. You can help protect Casa Grande Ruins by following a few simple rules.

1. **Please** respect all things while visiting. This includes plants, animals, the ruins, other people and yourself.
2. **Please** stay off the walls and the ruins. Archeological sites are very fragile.
3. **Please** have lunch and snacks in the picnic area. Remember to put your garbage in the trash can.
4. **Please** don't share your food with the ground squirrels. They will eat it but it isn't good for them.
5. **Please** don't add any graffiti to the ruins. What would your parents say if you wrote on the walls at school or at home?
6. **Please** stay out of the closed areas unless you are with a ranger. Areas are closed because they are fragile.
7. **Please** leave artifacts where you find them. If you see a piece of pottery or other artifact, tell a ranger.
8. **Please** tell an adult if you see anything wrong.

Thank you for your help!

THE DESERT DWELLERS



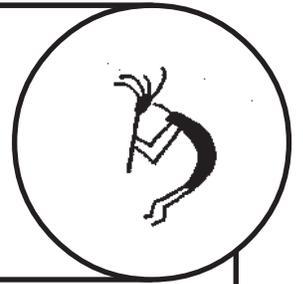
What is the weather like right now? _____

On average, how much rain does the Sonoran Desert receive per year?

What did the early hunter/gatherers eat? _____

Listen...what sounds do you hear? _____

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION



Who were the first farmers in the American Southwest? _____

How did the farmers water their crops? _____

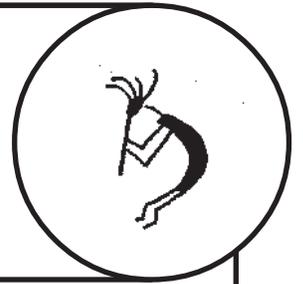
What food crops did they cultivate? _____

What did they grow cotton for? _____

How long did they farm in the area? _____

Look...what kinds of plants do you see? _____

BUILDING THE COMPOUND

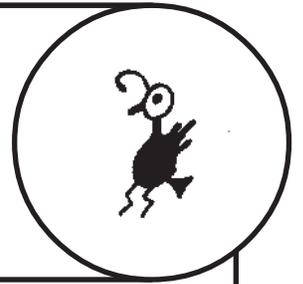


What did the Hohokam use to build the structures in the compound?

What activities might have occurred in the compound?

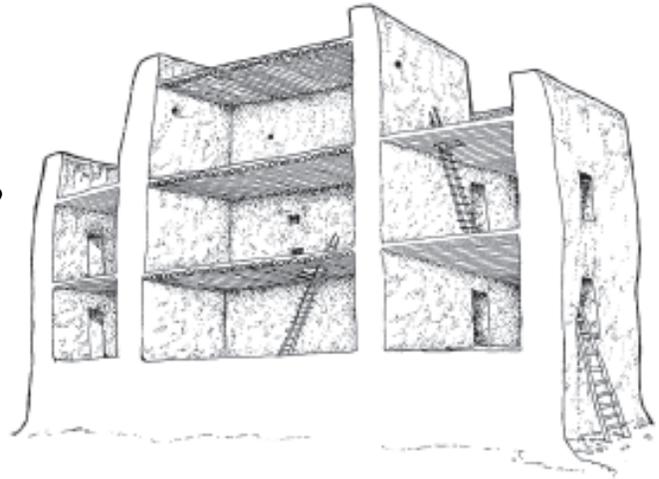
Why would the Hohokam enclose the area with a 7-foot-high wall?

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CASA GRANDE



What kind of wood was used
for the floors of the Casa Grande?

How old is the Casa Grande?



How many **pounds** of caliche were used?

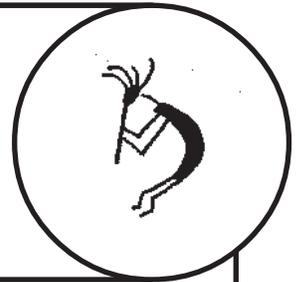
(Hint: There are 2000 pounds in 1 ton) _____

Why are there horizontal lines on the walls of the Casa Grande? _____

Look.....Inside the Casa Grande there are inscriptions or 'graffiti'.

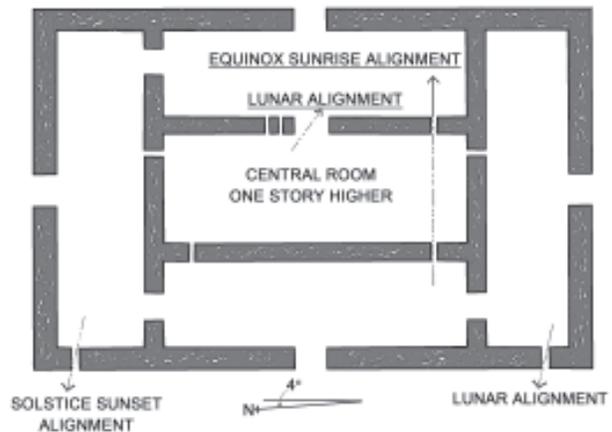
What is the oldest date you see? _____

A PREHISTORIC OBSERVATORY?



How might the Casa Grande have been used? _____

What is the summer solstice? _____

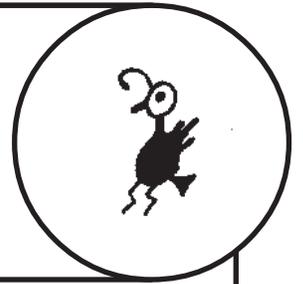


Why would the Hohokam build a calendar? _____

How would they use the information from the calendar? _____

Wait....Can you feel the air on your skin? Does it feel cooler or warmer in the shade? _____

FOOD FROM THE DESERT



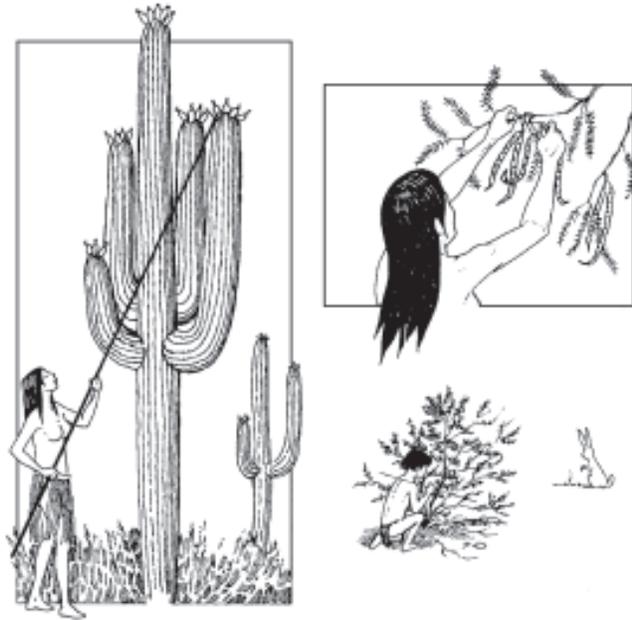
Besides the crops they grew,
what plants did the Hohokam
gather for food? _____

What animals did they eat?

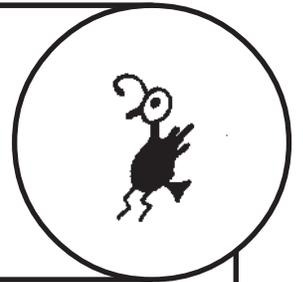
What plants did they use for medicine? _____

Why have most of the trees died in the area? _____

Look....count how many dead mesquite trees you see. _____



CASA GRANDE COMMUNITY



What activities might have occurred in this area? _____

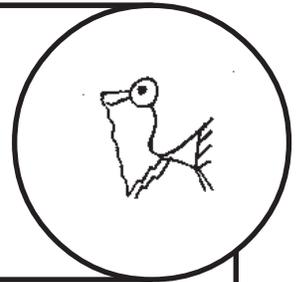


What games might the Hohokam have played? _____

What other activities could have occurred in the ballcourt? _____

Look....Which building would you like to live in? Why? _____

ABANDONMENT

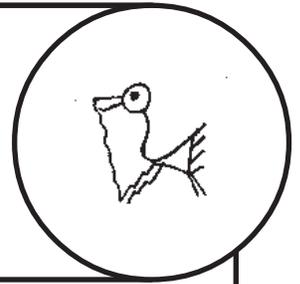


Why do you think the Hohokam abandoned their cities and neighborhoods? _____

Where do you think they went? _____

What events would make you leave your house? _____

VANDALISM AND THE ROAD TO PROTECTION



In the 1880's before protection.

Who named Casa Grande? _____

How old is the roof? _____

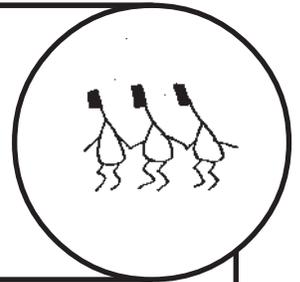
When were the Casa Grande Ruins protected by the government?

Why is the big roof over the top of the Casa Grande? _____



The Casa Grande as it appears today.

THOSE WHO ARE GONE



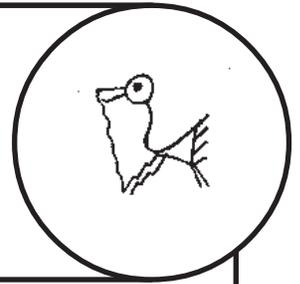
Why is it important to protect sites like Casa Grande? _____

What can you do to help preserve special areas? _____

Do you know of a special place you think needs to be protected? _____

Why do you think it is important? _____

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE



How would you teach someone your own age what is important about Casa Grande Ruins National Monument? _____

How would you teach a grown-up what is important about Casa Grande Ruins National Monument? _____
